

## **Employment of People with Disabilities**

The Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped was created by Executive Order on September 25, 1975. In recognition of the special and unique needs of the handicapped citizens of the state, the Committee's purpose was to ensure that these particular citizens of Nevada have equal opportunity in competing for employment, and in achieving a mobile, independent and more satisfying quality of life.

The main functions of the Committee are to advise the Governor, through the Administrator of the Rehabilitation Division, on the development of employment opportunities, the removal of architectural barriers, and on programs and facilities for serving the handicapped; to develop and assist local committees on employment of the handicapped; to identify and contact Nevada businesses, industries, and labor representatives and to initiate specific programs for creating equal opportunity in employment of the handicapped; to identify the services most needed, and to promote programs which will provide these services; to serve as an advocate for the rights of the handicapped; to develop a public information program which will educate the public about the special problems and needs of the handicapped; and to promote and interpret the programs and goals for providing a barrier-free environment for the handicapped, especially in the removal of architectural and transportation barriers.

The Committee was created originally in the Rehabilitation Division of the Nevada Department of Human Resources. In 1987 it was renamed Governor's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities. On October 1, 1993 it was transferred to the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, and on July 1, 1997, it was further transferred to the Department of Business and Industry.